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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,124	09/20/2005	Hezhu Yin	2003UR011	8232
7590	06/23/2006		EXAMINER HELLNER, MARK	
J. Paul Plummer ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company P.O Box 2189 Houston, TX 77252-2189			ART UNIT 3663	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over King et al in view of Taner et al.

Figure 1 of King et al discloses a method of determining geophysical properties of layered strata comprising: convolving a seismic trace signal $[X(w)]$ with a transfer function $[H(w)]$ of properties useful for material identification and outputting a signal $[Y(w)]$ that indicates the spatial location of the geophysical properties.

Implementation of the method disclosed by King et al would have required the skilled artisan to have sought out known means for acquiring seismic trace signals and geophysical properties of layered strata.

Taner et al teaches that it was known at the time of the present application to have used seismic traces and petrophysical logs to obtain a seismic impulse trace and geophysical properties of layered strata.

It would have been obvious to have used the known method of Taner et al to provide the data required in the method of King et al.

The proposed combination above produces claim 1.

Claims 2-8 are taught by Taner et al.

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Claims 10-13 are taught by the combination of King et al and Taner et al applied to claims 1-8.

Claims 9 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Siman et al and Karam et al teach the use of convolved seismic data.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Mark Hellner at telephone number 571 272 6981.

Mark Hellner

Primary Examiner

AU 3663

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Hellner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.